

### **James' Sermon on the Mount: Rebuking a 'Worldly – Dead Church'**

<sup>22</sup> But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.  
<sup>23</sup> For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; <sup>24</sup> for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.

<sup>25</sup> But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues *in it*, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. **(Luke 6:20-45)**

➤ **'Law of Liberty' – Messianic Teachings – Spirit led Doctrines =The Faith**

### **You are Apostle -Ambassadors – Messianic Judges! What Did Jesus Command?**

<sup>26</sup> If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion *is* useless. **(Luke 6:27-28...Chp 3)**

<sup>27</sup> Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this:

1. to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, **[Chapter 2]**
  2. *and* to keep oneself **[as a Messianic Judge]** unspotted from the world.
- ἄσπιλος **aspilōs**, *as'-pee-los*; *unblemished*, without taint, corrupt[Chp 4]

➤ **What Does James mean by 'unspotted by the world'? (Luke 6:29-35)**

**2** My brethren, do not hold the **faith** **[Teachings/Commands]** of our Lord Jesus Christ, *the Lord* (?) of glory, with **partiality**. (*'the faith'* - Picking and Choosing)

<sup>2</sup> For if there should come into your assembly (*sunagogue*- Life) a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes, <sup>3</sup> and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, "You sit here in a good place," and say to the poor man, "You stand there," or, "Sit here at my footstool,"

**[Judging by 'Status Card' – Outward Observations: Creates a Proud/False People]**

**<sup>4</sup> have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts (*reasonings*)?**

### **'Unspotted Judges 4 Christ': Luke 6:37-38**

1. *'Judge NOT...'* [As the Rich/World/Pharisees Do: **Turning people away from Him**]
2. *'Condemn NOT...'* 'Callous/hard' - **Rightly 'Deserve' rather than 'Come to Jesus'**
3. *'Forgive...'* Offenses, Mistakes, failures, struggles, open sin: – **Matt. 18:21-35**
4. *'Give...'* "When the Spirit leads: Give your ALL as Christ Gave His ALL"

<sup>5</sup> Listen, my beloved brethren:

Has God not chosen the poor of this world *to be* rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him? **(Luke 6:20-23)**

1. **In Your Obedience...** You will be Poor...but rich in faith **(You KNOW)**
2. **B/c of Your Obedience...** you will receive your Kingdom Inheritance.

<sup>6</sup> But you have dishonored the poor man. **[Jesus ALWAYS embraced Imperfection]**  
Do not the rich oppress you and drag you into the courts? **(Luke 6:24-26)**

<sup>7</sup> Do they not blaspheme that noble name by which you are called?

### **So Why is this Important? What is the 'take home from this?'**

1. These men watched Jesus as THEIR Example – To be the Church's Example
- **Christ's Ambassadors -Leaders of the Churches** were failing miserably
- **Christ's Churches were following...failing Miserably: Dead Faith**
- James is Rebuking them and Holding them Accountable.

### **This Topic is Mercy: Ministering to the Desperate– Crisis – Hopelessness – Need**

1. **TODAY** - What Example is the Church following? What is it Displaying?
2. What is it doing? What is it obeying when it comes to 'Ministering to People?'

### **What is the connection to Me? [Apostolic Judge – NT Believer]**

1. Our #1 Role in this life it to be 'Conformed into Christ's image' **(Rom 8:29)**
2. Our #2 Role is Obedience to His Leading & Authority: **Be used by Him**
3. Our # 3 Role is Allowing Ourselves to be Prepared for the Kingdom

### **The Obedient Believer in Christ IS being Prepared to be a Messianic Judge:**

(Christ 'Judges' through His Church – Doctrines – Leadership & Believers today)

**This is the NT Believer's Manual of How to LIVE/SERVE NOW -> Then:**

### **Close with: I Cor. 5:9-6:4 – The Condition of Today's Churches is Alarming!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**Would You Allow/Trust Your Church Leaders...Your Brothers and Sisters to 'Judge the affairs of your Life – Finance - Family – Future?'**

Are **You** yourselves Spiritually walking with Christ – being trained – Leading - serving and ministering in YOUR Local Church...

➤ **Being prepared for A Place/Position in the Kingdom?**

**What does this Look like as we look around?**

**Where do we start...when it comes to 'Spiritual Reform' in our Churches?**